

**EPA Region 7 Office of Public Affairs**  
**Desk Statement – SO<sub>2</sub> Air Quality Standard Designation – Ameren Missouri-Labadie**

EPA concludes that based on available information the agency is unable to determine whether the area is meeting the NAAQS, and therefore is designating portions of Franklin County and St. Charles County, Missouri area as unclassifiable for the 2010 SO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS.

**Follow on questions –**

1. Specifically, the area is comprised of the following boundary:
  - The eastern and western boundaries are Boone and Boles Township boundaries in St. Charles and Franklin Counties respectively. The northern boundary is Missouri Route D and Highway 94 in St. Charles. The southern boundary is Interstate 44 in Franklin.
2. EPA received widely varying modeling analysis from the state of Missouri, Ameren and Sierra Club. After an assessment and evaluation of these modeling analyses, the EPA does not have a clear basis to determine whether the area currently meets or does not meet the 2010 SO<sub>2</sub> NAAQS based on all currently available information. The EPA's view is that the modeling results widely vary and greatly depended upon how the modeling was conducted, as discussed in this Technical Support Document.
3. The final SO<sub>2</sub> rule gives air agencies the flexibility to characterize air quality using either modeling of actual source emissions or using appropriately sited ambient air quality monitors.
4. EPA considered the recent monitoring conducted by Ameren but could not determine whether the area was or was not meeting the NAAQS based on this monitoring since the monitor has not collected data for at least a three year period.
5. **Do not use unless it is included in the TSD** - EPA considered the recent monitoring conducted by Ameren. Based upon an analysis of the historic and new on-site meteorological data, it appears that these new monitors may not be placed in an area where the maximum concentrations are expected to occur.
6. We will continue to work with all parties concern regarding the monitoring and modeling data to scientifically characterize SO<sub>2</sub> emissions from Labadie.

## **Area Designations for the 2010 National Air Quality Standard for Sulfur Dioxide – Final Designations, Headquarters One-Pager (Round 2)**

### **Overview:**

By July 2, 2016, the EPA must designate as “unclassifiable/attainment,” “unclassifiable,” or “nonattainment” two groups of areas:

- areas with newly monitored violations of the 2010 primary 1-hour SO<sub>2</sub> standard, and
- areas containing stationary sources not announced as of March 2, 2015, for retirement and that according to the EPA’s Air Markets Database emitted in 2012 either (i) more than 16,000 tons of SO<sub>2</sub>, or (ii) more than 2,600 tons of SO<sub>2</sub> with an annual average emission rate of at least 0.45 pounds of SO<sub>2</sub> per one million British thermal units (lbs SO<sub>2</sub>/mmBTU).

EPA is designating 61 areas in 24 states.

### **SO<sub>2</sub> Rollout Plan**

#### **Thursday, 6.30.16 PM EDT**

Administrator signs letters to Governors and the designations Federal Register Notice

#### **Friday, 7.1.16 AM EDT**

- OAQPS Communications Staff will send individual signed and PDF’d letters to OCIR (HQ) and AQPD for distribution to the Regions
- OCIR sends letters to Governors beginning around 11 AM eastern (to be confirmed on Friday)
- AQPD distributes letters to Regions for distribution to State Air Directors around 10:30 AM
- Calls to states/Tribes/Sierra Club by HQ by 1 PM
- Designations Website goes live by 1:00 PM

### **Statement**

EPA is taking the next step in the Clean Air Act process to implement the health-based national air quality standard for sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>). In this action, the Agency is designating 61 areas in 24 states as unclassifiable/attainment (meeting the standard), nonattainment (not meeting the standard), or unclassifiable (not enough information to determine whether the standard is being met) for the one-hour health - based standard. Exposure to SO<sub>2</sub> can cause a range of adverse health effects, including narrowing of the airways and increased asthma symptoms. EPA will continue to work closely with our partners at the state, tribal, and local levels to address the designations for other areas in separate future actions.

List of designated areas: will send final link Friday, July 1

Additional information: <https://www.epa.gov/sulfur-dioxide-designations>

### **Background**

EPA has already designated 29 areas in 16 states as not meeting the standards on July 25, 2013. Under a court order, EPA will complete two additional rounds of designations for the 2010 SO<sub>2</sub> standard. The first will be completed by December 31, 2017, and the second round will be completely by December 31, 2020.